

Boston. May 6. 1839

Dear Aunt Mary,

My trunk is packed, my habit and cap on, a cup of tea to strengthen me for to night's tossing & dreading, and in an hour's time Mrs Southwick calls for me to convey me to the Providence sail road, that I may thus present myself to the eyes of the N. Y. brethren. All this is strange to me, very; but perhaps it will not be so to you, for as I wanted very much to go, it may be that you thought I should accomplish it. But I assure you it was none of my doing. When I first arrived in town Caroline told me that if I did not go she should; that it would be inconvenient to her, & might perhaps injure her school, but that she was resolved that one of the family should be there. Maria thought the same & as my will was very good to be persuaded that it was my duty to go, here I am just ready to start. I hope Mrs Dr will open her doors, but as she may not, I thought it best to go ~~in~~ under the patronage of Mrs Southwick, for if I have to stay at a hotel it would interfere with Wendell's liberty to loaf about as I understand he designs to do. We shall not go by the way of Stonington but take the outer passage on board the Lexington which will carry us for \$100 I hear. The friends that go that way are as far as I can tell, Mr & Mrs Southwick, Anna Phillbrick, Johnson & Wendell & perhaps Collins. Dr Farnsworth & Henry called here this morning, but the Dr does not think of going our way. He has scruples of conscience about going in the Lexington because she goes so cheap, as she does it for the sake of being bought off the line. Henry Farnsworth goes as a delegate from the Groton Juvenile Society. Henry "children are their oppressors. It is pain away Kelly is to be there, but it is not certain. I have received a commission

from Francis Jackson to act as delegate. I felt a little nervous lest I might happen to be the only woman & so the woman question battle would rage round me, but I find Thankful with her commission in hand ready to man or rather woman her point to the last. Very good letters have been received from Pillsbury & Chapman. The soil is very hard in the western part of the state, but not they think beyond the reach of grove. Willard spent last evening here. He looks like a shadow & his hand feels like that of a baby & is awfully bigger. He was sore however to take sides with the N.Y. folks with much spirit, though it was very evident his feelings were rather against fighting for them & he would have preferred to have had the other side, but as it was he tried to defend them, or rather to prove that as all men acted just as they did, it would not do to denounce them. I had a good enough ride into town, was not sick at all though I believe I did take a little cold, sitting by the open window. I called in the forenoon at H. Sargent's but saw only Catherine. I took tea in the afternoon at Chauncy Dr. Mr. Chapman looks very feeble but is better. It is a decided thing that Wendell & Ann go to England. Ann has recently begun to prepare. I went to the Free Ch yesterday morning. Phelps preached & he seemed determined to do away with the only vestige of Freedom that is left there, namely the right of sitting where one pleases, for he requested that all individuals would choose a place where they would always sit, that he might know whether they were at meetings etc. Also he gave very broad hints to people who came there without belonging there, that they ought to join that congregation or else go join some where. This notion of loafing about without being under "the watch & care" of any minister seemed to fill him with horror. "Many people" he said, "regard the Free Church as a sort of a tavern" he believed. I shall not go there any more, they exhibited much in hospitality

I went in the afternoon to Mr Bledens & heard a
stranger. Mrs Jamison & Mary & Collins & the 3 have
been here this morning.

I have time to write no more.
I shall write from N. Y. Tuesday night & hope Lucia will
be able to forward you the letter.
A letter came from W. B. Wright yesterday. The women's conven-
tion is going on well. 200 delegates present. The Grimké's did
not go. The Mayor waited on L. Motte to ask her not to
work in the street with coloured people. She replied that
two were staying with her with whom she shared
and invited by go to the meeting. He then asked her to go to the
meeting by the bye ways and she said she should go the short
way. Thus ended it, but W. B. Wright says there will be no mob.

A. W. Weston

May 6th 1839

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